

MEMORANDUM

County of Monterey
Sheriff-Marshall-Coroner
Public Administrator's Office



Date: July 20, 2004
To: FCC
From: Sheriff Mike Kanalakakis
Subject: Statement in Support of Local Programming

Commissioners:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my support for our local television and radio broadcasters in the Monterey bay area regional market. As Sheriff of Monterey County, and an elected official, I have experienced first hand the quality of our local media both in the news and political arenas. My overall impression is that news reporting is generally fair and balanced with some exceptions. I have found the political coverage to be thorough, comprehensive, very educational, and informative.

I have always found the electronic media in this area to be responsive and alert to public safety needs and issues. They are very good at putting out public safety information in a timely manner. All of us in the public safety sector are appreciative of their efforts on behalf of our communities.

I also like the fact that local programming reflects the needs and interests of our community. I have never gotten the impression that there has been any corporate influence with respect to how views are expressed and aired. As a life long resident of Monterey County I believe that we truly have fine representation here in Monterey County and an excellent working relationships with our local media.

Of particular note are two outstanding examples of broadcasting that I would like to bring to your attention.

The first is AM 1460 radio (Clear Channel Communications). Radio 1460 has been an outstanding community partner for law enforcement getting the word out to the public on crime and issues important to public safety. They should be commended for their interest in public safety and keeping the community safe and informed.

The second is KSBW-TV local channel 8 (Hearst-Argyle). This local NBC affiliate is deeply involved in our community and part of the fabric of what makes up Monterey County. They are involved in so many different community projects and charitable events that it is hard to keep count. KSBW TV could be a model for other television stations to follow when it comes to community involvement and support. They should get extra credit for their efforts. Best of all their staff clearly enjoys helping our community and it shows in their enthusiasm.

These are just two examples of what I consider to be valuable community partners in our fight against crime. It is not often that you will find a law enforcement official, much less the Chief Law Enforcement Officer in the County, step up and commend the media but I must say for the record that I

think our local media does a great public service to our residents. Please take this into consideration with regard to any findings you may make.

If I can be of any further assistance do not hesitate to contact me at (831) 755-3751

Mike Kanalakis

Mike Kanalakis
Sheriff-Coroner-Public Administrator